

The UN Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management - UN-GGIM, has endorsed a draft United Nations Resolution on the Global Geodetic Reference Frame. The draft Resolution will now pass to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), UN-GGIM's parent body and the United Nations' central platform for reflection, debate, and innovative thinking on sustainable development. The intent is for ECOSOC to then refer the Resolution to the General Assembly.

The draft resolution text has been carried out by a working group counting 23 nations in total. Co-chairs of the working groups are Australia and Norway. The idea is to anchor the important work on the Global Geodetic Reference Frame in a mandate on high political level from the UN.

As things currently stand, there needs to be a growing awareness that no single country can maintain the Global Geodetic Reference Frame alone. Instead it requires global co-operation and contributions.

Equally, the 'best efforts' principle currently in place will not be sufficient for the future. There need to be mutual global efforts working under the umbrella and mandates of overarching structures like the United Nations.

This will give the nations hosting and developing geodetic infrastructure the necessary support when arguing for funds. We believe that this is a necessary step in order of achieving GGOS goals.